

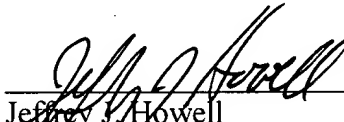
REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment claims 1-40 will remain pending, with claims 1, 2, 18 and 32 being independent.

Attached hereto as page 3 is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendments. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made".

Prompt and favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of correcting the refractive error in the cornea of an eye, comprising the steps of

heating the cornea to loosen the molecules therein, thereby softening the cornea into a gelatinous material;

reshaping the gelatinous material, so that it substantially conforms to a predetermined pattern; and

cooling the reshaped gelatinous material to maintain it in the predetermined pattern;

wherein the reshaping step takes place without subjecting the cornea to a vacuum.